



**Every citizen has a right
to bear arms in defense
of himself and the state.**

Connecticut State Constitution, Section 15

Connecticut Citizen's Defense League, Inc.

OPPOSE HB 5800

"An Act Requiring Registration of All Firearms"

Chairwoman Hartley and Chairmen Dargan and members of the Public Safety and Security Committee, my name is Leonard Benedetto. I reside in Stratford and I am the Vice President of the Connecticut Citizens Defense League, the largest Grassroots Pro 2A organization in Connecticut with over 1000 members and I am testifying in

Opposition to HB 5800,
"An Act Requiring Registration of All Firearms"

Section (1)(A) states "any person who purchases a firearm register the firearm within ten days of purchase"

This is already a requirement and this is done at the moment of the sale when the seller calls DPS to get an authorization number for the transaction. All of the information of the sale is transmitted verbally as well as by fax or computer to the Department of Public Safety for their records on their DPS-3 form.

Section (B) states "any person who purchased a firearm prior to this statute's effective date register that firearm within ten days of the effective date"

& Section (C) "any person owning a firearm renew registration every five years"

(2) provide that the Department of Public Safety receive the registrations required by subdivision (1) of this section.

The history with the Department of Public Safety and their record keeping when it comes to guns and the sale of such guns is SKETCHY at best.

On October, 7th 2009 they (DPS) sent out 3125 letters to gun owners that had legally sold their gun or guns. Requesting that they submit another copy of the DPS-3 forms. DPS had a transaction number for these transactions yet they had "Misplaced" the actual forms. These "Misplaced" forms dated all the way back to June of 2000.

In August of 2010 I personally handled the Transaction of a gun that was for the CCDL raffle. The gun was sold to our organization at cost from one of the larger gun stores in Connecticut. Since we were raffling 3 guns purchased or donated from different stores, we decided that they should all be in one store so that the winners could all go to the same place to pick up their winnings.



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I picked up and paid for the gun at the first store.
Filled out all the paperwork including the DPS-3 form.
The gunstore called DPS, got an approval for my purchase as well as a transaction number.

I drove 30 minutes to the store that would hold all the prizes.

Again I Filled out all the paperwork including the DPS-3 form.
They called DPS got an approval for my sale to them as well as a transaction number.

In November, I recieved a letter stating that I needed to submit my DPS-3 form for that tranaction. This gun was in my possession for a total of 1 hour!

As I have stated in testimony to this committee last year on another issue pretaining to gun registration, my gun safe and countless others in this great state have modern firearms in them that have NO serial number, due to the age of the guns.

How could I or anyone else possibly register a gun that is not and has never been serialized?

What Public Safety Value is gained by adding an additional registration of all guns every 5 years?

Why bear the additional cost and effort for the Department of Public Safety to create and maintain a renewing registration database?

For what purpose is it intended?

Would not the effort to enhance Public Safety be better served by allocating resources toward the thousands of outstanding, criminal arrest warrants that exist in the State?

Thank you,

Leonard Benedetto
Vice President
Connecticut Citizens
Defense League, Inc.